





## ST. PAUL TO VANCOUVER

"I expect to see through trains from St. Paul running to Vancouver over the Victoria, Vancouver & Eastern road before the end of 1909."

Patrik Welch, of Spokane, member of the firm of Foley, Welch and Stewart railroad contractors, who built the line from Marcus, Wash., where it connects with Great Northern from Spokane, through the boundary district and Stanislaus to Kermene, made the following statement, adding:

"The V. V. & E. has been completed as far as Kermene and late this fall trains will be running to Hedley, 25 miles farther. As work will be continued all winter we expect to reach Princeton in May. The task of building over the Hope mountains into the Fraser river valley will be undertaken and pushed to completion with all possible speed. It is a task so enormous the main trains but I am informed, that said factory grades have been secured."

It is the prediction of Mr. Welch that it will mean that the Crows Nest railway in a very few years will be more valuable than the main line, connecting the main line of the C. P. R. with the road Mr. Welch speaks of, now being built through southern British Columbia to the coast is a great Northern enterprise, the completion of the line and the establishment of a through service to Vancouver from St. Paul would force the P. R. to complete its projected line through the same territory in order to successfully compete and that would mean a through service from St. Paul to Vancouver via the sea and this line.

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